

Lava Beds National Monument PO Box 1240 Tulelake, CA 96134

Larry Whalon Superintendent 530-667-8101 larry\_whalon@nps.gov

## Lava Beds National Monument News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date 11/21/16

## Lava Beds National Monument Announces Special Ranger Led Tours on Black Friday

TULELAKE, California— If you are looking for a refreshing experience the day after Thanksgiving, come to Lava Beds this Black Friday for great opportunities to learn about the history, geology, and ecology of the area. On Friday, November 25°, rangers will lead a 10:00 AM hike at Captain Jack's Stronghold, a 2:00 PM tour of Catacombs Cave, and a 3:30 tour of Valentine Cave. The 10:00 AM hike will meet at the Stronghold trailhead in the northern part of the monument. For cave tours, you must come to the visitor center on Black Friday to get a ticket, as tour space is limited. Tours are filled on a first come, first serve basis. Although these programs are free, the \$15 per vehicle entrance fee still applies. Guided tours are scarce this time of year, so visit Lava Beds this Black Friday for a rare seasonal opportunity.

Superintendent Larry Whalon says, "Even without a guided cave tour, Lava Beds National Monument is a great place to visit in fall and winter. The park is less crowded which gives visitors a chance to explore the caves and trails in solitude with a greater chance of seeing wildlife. We hope to see your family!" The visitor center will be open 9:00-4:30 each day. Please call 530-667-8113 for further information.

\* \* \*

Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!

The Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific, established in 2008, is a nationally significant site dedicated to telling the story of the cost of war on the home front and the lasting effects of the unjust

incarceration of over 18,000 US citizens and long-term residents of Japanese ancestry at the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8113, email labe\_interpretation@nps.gov, or go to www.nps.gov/labe. Also, visit the park's Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages.

-NPS-